

Claims:

1. A wireless communication device comprising a mobile
5 unit for transmission and reception of voice
calls through a mobile phone network having a user-
accessible call activation switch, the unit being
programmed to communicate with a first stored
10 telephone number, on operation of said call
activation switch, the device further comprising
location determination means.
2. A device according to claim 1 wherein the location
determination means comprises means for location
determination based on signals from the mobile phone
15 network.
3. A device according to claim 1 wherein the location
determination means comprises a GPS unit.
4. A device according to claim 1 wherein the information
relating to the device location is transmitted to a
20 second stored number on operation of the call
activation switch.
5. A device according to claim 4 wherein information
relating to device location is transmitted to the
second stored number in response to a received
25 request from an authorised source.
6. A device according to claim 4 wherein the information

relating to the device location is transmitted as an SMS message.

7. A device according to claim 4 wherein the second stored number represents computer means, by means of which said location information can be displayed to an operator.

8. A device according to claim 1 further comprising second location determination means in the form of a radio frequency beacon.

9. A device according to claim 8 wherein the radio frequency beacon is remotely activatable in response to a received request from an authorised source.

10. A device according to claim 8 further comprising network detection means for detecting when the device is within an area of mobile phone network coverage, the unit being adapted to activate said radio frequency transmitter when said detection means detects the device as outside network coverage and said call activation switch is operated.

11. A device according to claim 1 wherein the unit is programmed such that, if operation of the call activation switch does not result in connection of a call to the first stored number, the unit re-dials until a connection is made.

12. A device according to claim 1 wherein subsequent to connection of the call to the first stored number any

second or subsequent operation of the call activation switch occurring within a predetermined time since a first operation of said switch is ignored.

13. A device according to claim 1 wherein, after
5 disconnection of voice communication by the other party the unit automatically disconnects after a predetermined period unless the user of the device has since operated the call button to disconnect.

14. A device according to claim 1 further comprising a
10 volume control button or buttons operable to adjust the volume of received voice call only when a call is connected to the unit.

15. A device according to claim 1 further comprising
15 battery charge detection means wherein the device is adapted to send a message to a third stored phone number in the event that a battery charge level falls below a preset value.

16. A device according to claim 1 wherein internal
20 settings of the unit are remotely controllable by means of SMS messages sent from an authorised entity.

17. A device according to claim 1 wherein the mobile unit
25 is further provided with local radio frequency transmission and reception means, and wherein there is provided a base station unit also provided with local radio frequency transmission and reception means, the mobile unit being programmed to adopt a

home status when within communicating range of said mobile base unit, which status is communicated to a stored telephone number.

- 5 18. A device according to claim 17, further comprising a remote activation unit which is provided with local radio frequency transmission means, whereby activation of the remote activation unit by a user sends a signal to said mobile unit which in turn communicates with said first stored telephone number.
- 10 19. A device according to claim 18 wherein the remote activation unit is wearable by a user.
- 15 20. A device according to claim 1 wherein the mobile unit further comprises means for providing an audible signal, which means are remotely activatable in response to a received request from an authorised source.
21. A device according to claim 1 wherein the mobile unit is provided with only a single user accessible call activation switch.
- 20 22. A device according to claim 1 wherein the mobile unit is provided with a single user accessible call activation switch associated with said stored telephone number, and a second call activation switch associated with a further stored telephone number.
- 25 23. A device according to claim 1 wherein the first stored telephone number is that of a call

centre providing user assisting services.

24. A device according to claim 22 where said further stored number is the telephone number of a relative, friend or carer of the user.

5 25. A device according to claim 1 wherein the mobile unit is incorporated with a receptacle for containing small personal effects.

26. A device according to claim 25 wherein the receptacle is a wallet suitable for containing one or more of
10 notes coins, credit cards, identification cards or the like.

27. A device according to claim 25 wherein the receptacle is a key fob for holding one or more door keys.

28. A communication system comprising:
15 at least one mobile device comprising a mobile unit for transmission and reception of voice calls and having a call activation switch, the device being programmable to call a predetermined number or numbers on operation of the switch, and which further
20 comprises location determining means;

at least one call processing centre associated with said predetermined telephone number or numbers at which a human operator receives calls from the device and initiates calls to the device through a mobile

25 . communication network;
the device being programmed to send information

relating to the device location to said call processing centre on operation of the call activation switch.

5 29. A communication system according to claim 28 wherein the mobile device comprises location determining means and sends information relating to the device to said call processing centre in reply to a location request command sent from said call processing centre.

10 30. A communication system according to claim 28 wherein the call processing centre displays the mobile device location on a website accessible to authorised contacts.

15 31. A communication system according to claim 28 wherein the call processing centre includes data storage means storing data comprising personal information relating to the device user.

20 32. A communication system according to claim 28 wherein the call processing centre may redirect calls from or to the device to or from an authorised contact.

25 33. A method of communication between a mobile electronic device and a call processing centre the device having a transceiver for transmission and reception of voice signals via a mobile phone network the device including data storage means and a user accessible dial button associated with a call

activation switch and including location detecting means, the method comprising the step of, retrieving in response to activation of the call switch by the user, a stored telephone number associated with said call processing centre from said storage means, dialling said stored telephone numbers to open voice communication therewith and measuring one or more location dependent criteria and sending data representative thereof to a second stored telephone number.

34. A method according to claim 33 wherein said location dependent criteria comprise one or more properties of signals associated with the mobile phone network.

35. A method according to claim 33 wherein said location dependent criteria comprises properties of signals associated with the GPS system.

36. A method according to claim 33 wherein the data representative of device location is supplied for display on a website together with stored map image data.

37. A method according to claim 33, further comprising the step of onward connection of a voice call from the device to a stored telephone number on to a further authorised contact.

38. A method according to claim 33 further comprising the steps of onward connection of a call from an

authorised contact to the call processing centre on to the device.

39. A device according to claim 1 in combination with a charging cradle, the cradle comprising a main body defining a well having a pair of electrical contacts at the bottom of the well for contacting complementary contacts on the device, and an upstanding rear wall and a side wall upstanding from the main body to facilitate the guiding of the device into the cradle.

40. A combination according to claim 39 wherein a side of the well opposite to said side wall is open.

41. A combination according to claim 39 wherein the device is provided with a movable flap which when closed covers a portion of the front of the unit and covers a call activation switch, the well being dimensioned so that the device may be inserted therein only with the flap in an open position.

42. A wireless communication device comprising a mobile unit for transmission and reception of voice calls through a mobile phone network having a user-accessible call activation switch, the unit being programmed to communicate with a first stored telephone number on operation of said call activation switch, and wherein the unit is remotely activatable to open voice communication on receipt of a message

from an authorised entity.

43. A device according to claim 42 wherein the internal settings of the unit are remotely controllable by means of messages from the authorised entity.

5 44. A communication system comprising:

at least one mobile device comprising a mobile unit for transmission and reception of voice calls and having a call activation switch, the device being programmable to call a predetermined number or numbers on operation of the switch;

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at least one call processing centre associated with said predetermined telephone number or numbers at which a human operator receives calls from the device and initiates calls to the device through a mobile communication network;

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and wherein the unit is remotely activatable to open voice communication on receipt of a message from an authorised entity.